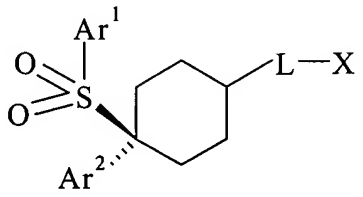
Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. There are no claim amendments, and the listing of claims is provided for the Examiner's convenience.

Listing of Claims

1. (Original) A compound of formula I:



I

wherein

X represents SCN, SR^1, $S(O)R^1$, $(CR^aR^b)_mSO_2R^1$, $SO_2N(R^2)_2$, SO_2NHCOR^1, $SO_2NHN(R^2)_2$, $OSO_2N(R^2)_2$, $OS(O)N(R^2)_2$, OSO_2NHCOR^1, COR^4, $NHCOR^1$, $NHCO_2R^1$, $NHCON(R^2)_2$, $NHSO_2R^1$ or $NHSO_2N(R^2)_2$;

m is 0 or 1

R^a represents H or C_{1-4}alkyl;

R^b represents H, C_{1-4}alkyl, CO_2H, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl or C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl; or R^b may combine with R^1 to form a 5- or 6-membered ring;

L represents a bond, =CH- or $-(CHR^a)_n-$; with the proviso that L does not represent a bond when X represents $NHCOR^1$, $NHCO_2R^1$ or $NHSO_2R^1$; and with the proviso that if L represents =CH-, X represents SO_2R^1 or COR^4;

n is 1, 2 or 3;

R^1 represents CF_3 or C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{3-9}cycloalkyl or C_{3-6}cycloalkylC_{1-6}alkyl, any of which may bear up to 2 substituents selected from halogen, CN, CF_3, OR^3, COR^3, CO_2R^3, $OCOR^{3a}$, SO_2R^{3a}, $N(R^5)_2$, and $CON(R^5)_2$,

or R^1 represents aryl, arylC_{1-6}alkyl, C-heterocyclyl or C-heterocyclylC_{1-6}alkyl;

or R^1 may combine with R^b to form a 5- or 6-membered ring;

each R^2 independently represents H, C_{1-6}alkoxy, or C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{3-9}cycloalkyl or C_{3-6}cycloalkylC_{1-6}alkyl, any of which may bear up to 2 substituents selected from halogen, CN, CF_3, OR^3, COR^3, CO_2R^3, $OCOR^{3a}$, and $CON(R^5)_2$; or aryl, arylC_{1-6}alkyl, C-heterocyclyl or C-heterocyclylC_{1-6}alkyl;

or two R^2 groups together with a nitrogen atom to which they are mutually attached complete an N-heterocyclyl group;

R^3 represents H, C_{1-4}alkyl, phenyl or heteroaryl;

R^{3a} represents C_{1-4}alkyl, phenyl or heteroaryl;

R^4 represents $(CR^aR^b)SO_2R^1$, pyridine N-oxide, or phenyl or heteroaryl which bear a substituent selected from CO_2H, methylenedioxy, difluoromethylenedioxy, COR^3, C-heterocyclyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl and substituted C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, C_{2-6}alkenyl or C_{2-6}alkenyloxy wherein the substituent is selected from halogen, CN, CF_3, OR^3, CO_2R^3, $OCOR^{3a}$, $N(R^5)_2$ and $CON(R^5)_2$;

R^5 represents H or C_{1-4}alkyl, or two R^5 groups together with a nitrogen atom to which they are mutually attached complete an azetidine, pyrrolidine, piperidine, morpholine, thiomorpholine or thiomorpholine-1,1-dioxide ring;

Ar^1 and Ar^2 independently represent phenyl or heteroaryl, either of which bears 0-3 substituents independently selected from halogen, CN, NO_2, CF_3, CHF_2, OH, OCF_3, CHO, CH=NOH, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{2-6}acyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl and C_{1-4}alkyl which optionally bears a substituent selected from halogen, CN, NO_2, CF_3, OH and C_{1-4}alkoxy;

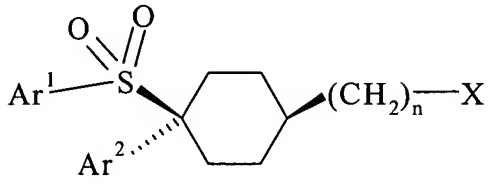
aryl at every occurrence thereof refers to phenyl or heteroaryl which optionally bear up to 3 substituents selected from halogen, CN, NO_2, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^3, COR^3, CO_2R^3, $OCOR^{3a}$, $N(R^5)_2$, $CON(R^5)_2$ and optionally-substituted C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, C_{2-6}alkenyl or C_{2-6}alkenyloxy wherein the substituent is selected from halogen, CN, CF_3, phenyl, OR^3, CO_2R^3, $OCOR^{3a}$, $N(R^5)_2$ and $CON(R^5)_2$; and

C-heterocyclyl and N-heterocyclyl at every occurrence thereof refer respectively to a heterocyclic ring system bonded through carbon or nitrogen, said ring system being non-aromatic and comprising up to 10 atoms, at least one of which is O, N or S, and optionally bearing up to 3 substituents selected from oxo, halogen, CN, NO_2, CF_3, OCF_3, OR^3, COR^3, CO_2R^3, $OCOR^{3a}$, OSO_2R^{3a}, $N(R^5)_2$, $CON(R^5)_2$ and optionally-substituted phenyl, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, C_{2-6}alkenyl or C_{2-6}alkenyloxy wherein the substituent is selected from halogen, CN, CF_3, OR^3, CO_2R^3, $OCOR^{3a}$, $N(R^5)_2$ and $CON(R^5)_2$;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Original) A compound according to Claim 1 wherein X is selected from SR^1, $(CR^aR^b)_mSO_2R^1$, $SO_2N(R^2)_2$, $OSO_2N(R^2)_2$, COR^4, $NHCOR^1$, $NHCO_2R^1$, $NHCON(R^2)_2$, $NHSO_2R^1$ and $NHSO_2N(R^2)_2$.

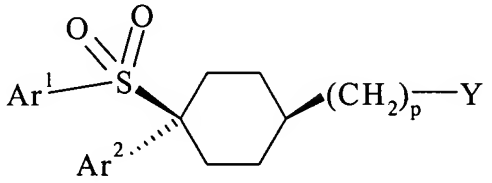
3. (Original) A compound according to Claim 1 which is in accordance with formula II:



II

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. (Original) A compound according to Claim 1 which is in accordance with formula III:



III

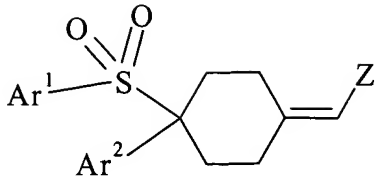
wherein p is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

Y is SCN, SR^1, $S(O)R^1$, $(CR^aR^b)_mSO_2R^1$, $SO_2N(R^2)_2$, SO_2NHCOR^1, $SO_2NHN(R^2)_2$, $OSO_2N(R^2)_2$, $OS(O)N(R^2)_2$, OSO_2NHCOR^1, COR^4, $NHCON(R^2)_2$ or $NHSO_2N(R^2)_2$;

and m, R^a, R^b, R^1, R^2, R^4, Ar^1 and Ar^2 are as defined in claim 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

5. (Original) A compound according to Claim 1 which is in accordance with formula IV:



IV

wherein Z represents SO_2R^1 or COR^4;

and R^1, R^4, Ar^1 and Ar^2 are as defined in Claim 1;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

6. (Original) A compound according to Claim 1 wherein Ar^1 is 4-chlorophenyl or 4-trifluoromethylphenyl or 6-(trifluoromethyl)-3-pyridyl and Ar^2 is 2,5-difluorophenyl.

7. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

8. (Original) A method of treatment of a subject suffering from or prone to a condition associated with the deposition of β-amyloid which comprises administering to that subject an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 9 wherein said condition is Alzheimer's disease.